

PERSISTENCE



To Graduation

Monthly E-news from the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Student Success



Elevating Evidence – Meeting ESSA’s Evidence-based Requirements

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) calls on education leaders to deepen their understanding and expand their use of evidence-based decision making. Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff will be hosting several workshops throughout Kentucky to introduce attendees to ESSA’s evidence-based provisions and facilitate conversations about common issues in educational research.

As part of this training, participants will evaluate a study that is relevant to their local setting and will leave with a completed study analysis that meets KDE compliance expectations. While all school and district leaders are welcome, this workshop is designed for principals and teacher leaders who want a deeper understanding of ESSA’s evidence-based practice provisions.

Three-hour morning and afternoon sessions will be offered at each location. To register, select the link below or visit KDE’s Evidence-based Practices website. Space is limited. EILA credit is available for this workshop.

You can [register](#) for one of the following training sessions:

- July 9: Elizabethtown, Regional Postsecondary Education Center, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College
- July 11: Hazard, Hazard Community and Technical College
- July 23: Madisonville, The Brown Badger Sr. Energy and Advanced Technology Center, Madisonville Community and Technical College
- July 25: Florence, Gateway Community and Technical College
- July 30: Grayson, Rocky Adkins Pavilion, Ashland Community and Technical College

Data Visualization Tools

KDE and Infinite Campus partner Computer Information Concepts collaborated to create visualizations with an initial focus on three areas – demographics, behavior, and attendance. Each area contains various views of the data such as charts, heat maps and spreadsheets. System users can download or print the data for their specific purpose. The Infinite Campus Data Analysis Portal can help state and district administrators get meaningful and useful insights into the vast and complex education data available. The tool can be used to guide an action plan to help one individual student or a group of students, and to easily filter and/or combine data for specific subgroups. Please refer to the following resources for more information:

[Introduction to the KDE Infinite Campus Data Analysis Portal \(PowerPoint Presentation\)](#)

[Infinite Campus Data Analysis Portal User Guide \(Includes how districts grant user access\)](#)

Training videos for the Infinite Campus Data Analysis Portal are available within [the Campus Community Data Visualization forum](#). Infinite Campus login credentials are required to access the videos.

Arts & Trauma Informed Education

Arts & Trauma-Informed Education (July 9-12 in Hazard): Open to teachers, FRYSC staff, and school counselors, this Academy will explore ways in which the arts can help create safe and supportive classroom and school cultures, and how the arts and art educators can work more effectively with trained mental health professionals in helping to support the needs of students struggling with the effects of trauma in their lives. Preference will be given to teachers who participated in Academies in 2017 (Leadership and the Arts) and 2018 (Arts and Wellness), and additional participants will be selected from the applicants.

The Kentucky Center Arts Academies have two other opportunities this summer for teachers:

- 1) Arts Integration Academy: Arts, Spanish Language, and Cultural Studies (June 17-19 in Danville)
- 2) Arts Assessment & Videography Academy (June 24-28 in Lexington): Hosted by and in partnership with Kentucky Educational Television (KET), this Academy will provide tools needed for assessing student work with artist criteria and put all the art forms together in a culminating video project.

Dates and Academy offerings subject to change. Applications will be posted on [this webpage](#) on March 27. Request an [email](#) to receive announcement when the applications have been posted.

Legislative Updates

HB 378 (Homeless youth) was passed in both houses and sent to the Governor. This bill contains several measures to make it easier for students experiencing homelessness to graduate from high school, including requiring schools to award and accept partial credits; help students enroll immediately in required coursework; award diplomas from prior school districts if the student meets the graduation requirements for the prior school but not the current school; and award diplomas for students who meet state graduation requirements, even if they don't meet additional local requirements. The bill also provides birth certificates at no cost to any homeless person under the age of 25.

SB 1 (School safety reform) This bill is comprehensive in nature and, among other items, creates a school safety coordinator training program and requires a school safety coordinator be appointed in every school district and outlines many responsibilities for the position; rearranges the KCSS board; creates the position of the school security marshal within the Dept. of Criminal Justice Training; requires the development by the school security marshal and usage by local districts of a school security risk assessment; requires superintendents to verify completion of the risk assessment annually to KDE and the school security marshal; requires the assignment of an SRO to each school "when funds and personnel are available;" establishes required training for SROs; require policies that are currently optional under KRS 158.162(3)(d) to be mandatory by 2022, including the implementation of specific door locks as well as window coverings and specific front entry measures; requires suicide prevention training for all students in grades 6-12; requires "all school district employees with job duties requiring direct contact with students" in

grades 6-12 complete suicide prevention training; requires KDE provide all district employees that interact with students active shooter training; defines “school counselor,” “school-based mental health services provider,” and “trauma informed approach” and requires, as funds and personnel become available, every school employee a school counselor with the goal of having 1 per 250 students; requires KDE to produce a trauma-informed toolkit by January 1, 2020; revises the definition of “terroristic threatening in the second degree;” requires Kentucky Dept. of Homeland Security to provide a tool for receiving anonymous reports related to school security; requires principals supply written notice of KRS 508.078, 532.060, and 534.030 to all students; and, requires OEA to study the usage of school counselors and report findings by 12/1/2019. You can read the [final version of SB1](#).

Relevant Research, Practice Tips, and Briefs

Improving College and Career Readiness for Students with Disabilities: The American Youth Policy Forum released a [brief](#) that provides context and background on the numbers of students with disabilities who are college and career ready; examines issues related to preparation and readiness for postsecondary education and careers; and includes examples of current programs and policies that help students with disabilities to successfully transition to college and career.

SEL Playbook to Support Practitioners – a Tool from CASEL: This [resource](#) provides activities for introducing and broadening the use of three signature SEL practices in classrooms, schools, and workplaces. The playbook addresses welcoming inclusion activities, engaging strategies, and optimistic closures to help practitioners create safe, productive spaces for students and adults. Form more school team resources, visit the CASEL [school guide](#).

Statistical Literacy and the Census Bureau: In preparation for the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau has launched [Statistics in Schools](#) (SIS), resources for Pre-K – 12th grade educators to use Census Bureau data to improve statistical literacy and prepare students for an increasingly data-driven world. For the 2019-2020 school year, the SIS program will be expanded to include materials and activities that help educate students and their importance of the once-a-decade census count to drive Census completion. SIS will be contacting all SEAs to better understand how it can collaborate with local education leaders to promote the 2020 Census and share the standards-based, free resources that SIS provides for use in the classroom.

Discussion Mapping: Check out this [60 second strategy](#) video from Edutopia for a quick reflection exercise to support student speaking and listening.

The Science of Self-Regulation: Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review released a [special issue](#) focused on self-regulation. Self-regulation and executive functioning skills are the mental processes that enable us to plan, focus our attention, remember instructions, and juggle multiple tasks successfully. Acquiring the early building blocks of these skills is one of the most important tasks of the early childhood years.

Federal Commission on School Safety Comprehensive Resource: The Federal Commission on School Safety recently released its [final report](#) detailing more than 90 best practices and

State School Safety: K-12 School Safety [50-State Comparison](#) was recently released as a joint effort between CCSSO and the Education Commission of the States (ECS) to analyze key state school safety requirements as well as school resource officers and weapons in schools.

Upcoming Professional Learning Opportunities

Webinars

Teacher Talk: In this webinar with Mike Anderson, author of *What We Say and How We Say It Matter: Teacher Talk That Improves Student Learning and Behavior*, you'll learn about several common language habits and patterns that many educators find themselves in and have a chance to explore better alternatives. You'll also learn about a process for changing language habits so that your language better aligns with your best intentions and positive goals for students. This webinar will be on March 26 at 3:00 ET. If you can't make the live webinar, be sure to [register](#) anyway and they will send you a link to the archived recording afterward.

New Tool on Crisis Response and Postvention Protocol after a Death in the School: School psychology experts Richard Lieberman, MA, NCSP, and Scott Poland, Ed.D., collaborated with Kognito to develop *Resilient Together: Coping with Loss at School*, a 40-minute online professional development simulation for teachers and administrators to become better prepared for responding to a death in the school community. Join these experts for a webinar discussion to learn how this new tool will help teachers and staff understand key elements of a crisis response plan, including postvention and much more. This [webinar](#) will be held on March 27 from 1:00-2pm ET.

Building and Developing Assessment-Capable Learners with John Hattie: Join Professor John Hattie on April 1 at 6:30pm ET as he discusses the importance of fostering an environment where students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning. Hattie will share insights into what fuels learning, the importance of self-assessment, the characteristics of assessment-capable learners, and the influences educators can employ to help their students build capacity and become assessment-capable Visible Learners. [Register](#) soon as seats are limited and will fill up fast!

Research-Based, Trauma-Responsive Education Practices: Amy Lansing, Ph.D., assistant adjunct professor at the University of California San Diego, will present trauma-responsive education practices from a neurocognitive and social-emotional perspective, and a high school teacher will discuss her perspective and experiences with trauma-responsive practices as a practitioner. The presenters will discuss how to create trauma-responsive school environments and participants will have opportunities to engage in in-depth discussion and pose questions. This [webinar](#) will take place March 28 from 3:00-4:15 CT.

Trauma-Informed Suicide Prevention for Educators – Stories, Science and Strategies: Join Leah Harris and Kelechi Ubozoh on April 4 from 6:00-7:00 pm in exploring what a trauma-informed suicide prevention approach for educators might look like. [This webinar](#) will begin with the perspective of a young person with lived experience of suicidal thoughts. Presenters will identify common myths and misconceptions about students and suicide, and explore the vital

importance of including students as partners in suicide prevention efforts. Examples of promising student-led initiatives, including peer-to-peer programs and school awareness campaigns, will be provided.

Solutions to the Dropout Crisis Webcasts: *Solutions to the Dropout Crisis* webcasts are always offered free of cost, and no registration is required. Tune in the second Tuesday of each month at 3:30 PM ET for new [Solutions to the Dropout Crisis](#), where you can also find recordings of previous webcasts.

Conferences and Activities

The Rural College Access and Success Summit: This summit will take place April 28-30 and will bring together teachers, principals, superintendents, non-profit leaders and many others to share ideas and strategies for ensuring that rural youth have the opportunity to successfully transition from high school to college and to career. During [the Summit](#), college access and success programs that serve rural America will share best practices and highlight the unique challenges of increasing opportunity in rural America.

Persistence to Graduation Summit: The 2019 Persistence to Graduation Summit will be held at the Lexington Convention Center July 9-10. Strands will include: Well-Rounded Educational Opportunities, Safe and Supportive Learning Environments, Effective Use of Education Technology, Student Transition and Reengagement Strategies, Alternative Education, and Community Partnerships. EILA and CEUs for social workers will be offered. Registration costs will be covered by Title IV, Part A state activities funds. Registration will be opening very soon.

Victory over Violence Conference: This conference addresses the safety and well-being of the whole child in the school and community by addressing social and emotional development issues and family engagement. Workshops are applicable for FRYSCs and all other youth- and family-focused professionals. This conference will be held July 15-17, 2019 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center

Promoting Literacy, Social Emotional Learning and Equity for ALL: The annual National Literacy Institute Summer Conference will be held June 11-12 in League City, Texas. This conference is designed to empower educators with the principles and practices that support literacy and language development, social emotional needs of students as well as teachers. If you are interested in presenting in their 2019 Bridging the Gap conference, they are [accepting proposals](#) through April 15th.

National Dropout Prevention Conference: The 2019 conference hosted by the National Dropout Prevention Center will take place October 5-8 in Denver, CO. The conference includes preconference sessions, keynote sessions, breakout sessions and networking opportunities. [Registration](#) is now open.

We are grateful for you and the hard work you do every day.

If you would like to contribute any information (resources, celebrations, etc.) to this enews, please email judi.vanderhaar@education.ky.gov. Also, please share this link with your colleagues who might be interested in subscribing to the [Persistence to Graduation listserv](#) (right click to subscribe)